

## S P E E C H

Spoken by the Bishop of *Meath* at the Head of the Clergy  
when they waited on His Majesty at his Camp at  
*Finglas*, July the 7<sup>th</sup>, 1690.

**W**E are some of the remainders of the Clergy, that have ventured to stay behinde our Brethren in perious times, and under great discouragements for the discharge of our duty to God and the People; Two of us are *Bishops* who together with five more in the Kingdom, thought our selves obliged to continue here to preserve the Succession of the Clergy, by the Ordination of *Priests* and *Deacons*, and the Seminary of the Church by Confirmation: The rest of our Members do consist of the Clergy of this City, and the rural Clergy, the former of these have stay'd upon their charge under great wants and discouragements, having not only been deprived of all their maintenance, but exposed to daily dangers in and for the discharge of their duty, and the latter are persons driven from their Cures, and forced to seek relief and sanctuary in this City,

We may possibly be censured ( by those that understand not the grounds and reasons of our continuance in this Kingdom ) as *Trimmers* or *Favourers* of *Popery*; from the first we are able to acquit our selves, having been guilty of no compliances, but such as have been the effects of prudence and self-preservation, such as were at once both innocent & necessary, and fit to be offered to a power that was able to Crush us far worse then it did, and we are so far from being guilty of the latter, that we humbly conceive we could not more effectually oppose the growth and inundation of *Popery* then by keeping up the publick assembly; by sticking to our flocks, and preventing their seduction by the *Romish* *Emissaries*.

We do not come to crave your Majesties Protection for our persons, our Churches, our Religion, or our Properties, which have been all in some measure invaded; our persons have been imprisoned, our Churches taken from us, our Properties

ties destroyed by a late Act of Parliament that took away our Tythes: and the free exercise of our Religion for some time interrupted. A request of this nature might perhaps look like a distrust of your Majesties Care of us, and seem to contradict the glorious design of your coming into this Kingdom. We are sensible that the generous end of your Majesties Presence was to rescue us from the Oppressions, and the Tyranny of Popery; and are well assured that the same paternal Affection that moved your Majesty to pity our Distress, will still Protect us now we are delivered.

We come rather to Bless God as the Author of our Deliverance, and your Majesty as the happy Instrument raised up by his Providence for the effecting it; to express our gratitude and our duty to your Majesty, who has a double Title to our Services, not only as our King, but as our Gracious Benefactor and Deliverer; to pray for the success of Your Majesties Forces, for the confirmation of that good Work that You have with so much personal hazard undertaken, that You may carry Your Victorious Armies into other Countreys, where the cries, and the groans, and the oppressions of the afflicted Protestants are as great as they have been here; That GOD would be an Helmet of Salvation to You in the day of Battel, and deal with You as he did with Nebuchadnezzar when he promised him the Kingdom of Egypt for his hard service against Tyrus; may he likewise recompence Your hard labour in this Kingdom with the addition of another that is far more valuable; and may You prove as happy and as successful an Instrument in the succouring of others, as You have been of the poor afflicted people of this Kingdom.

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